

LPD Quarterly Newsletter

April 1st—June 30th 2020

Emergency Line: 911

Non-emergency Line: 978-937-3200



@LowellMAPD



@LowellPD



Mission Statement

The mission of the Lowell Police Department is to continue building and maintaining strong partnerships with the diverse communities of the city of Lowell. We strive to work with our community to reduce the incidence and fear of crime, and to ensure public safety. We will do this while working to improve the quality of life for the citizens of Lowell.

The Lowell Police Department is committed to the ideals of Community Policing. Those ideals are evident in programs such as the Citizens Police Academy, the Police Volunteer Program and the Community Relations Council. The Department's core values are integrity, respect, accountability, community, sanctity of life, and knowledge. Patrols are assigned by geographic sector, encouraging officers to become intimately associated with neighborhoods and their residents, better enabling them to fight and prevent crime.

Highlights

- ◆ LPD participated in the Light It Up Blue campaign to celebrate World Autism Awareness Day.
- ◆ The department created an 8 AM Routine on social media to remind residents to practice social distancing and created interactive activities with the community. The department continues to post the 9 PM Routine reminder on a regular basis.
- ◆ Superintendent Richardson released a statement to the community denouncing the actions and inactions of the officers involved in the tragic death of George Floyd. LPD policies on Use of Force and Duty to Intervene are briefly discussed on page 4.
- ◆ Individuals and community organizations made donations to the LPD during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Crime Statistics for April 1– June 30, 2020*

Crime	2019	2020	% Change
Aggravated Assault	54	55	2%
Burglary	70	61	-13%
Car Break-ins	82	50	-39%
Disorderly	50	27	-46%
Domestic Aggravated Assault	43	40	-7%
Robbery	21	20	-5%
Shoplifting	49	22	-55%
Vandalism	101	101	0%
Total	470	376	-20%

Firearms	2020
Recovered	31
Surrendered	10
Total	41

The LPD took 41 firearms off the streets between January 1, 2020 and June 30, 2020.

* Statistics are subject to change due to ongoing investigations.

World Autism Awareness Day

The LPD recognizes World Autism Awareness Day every year by participating in the Light It Up Blue campaign. On April 2nd, the LPD had police officers pull over to the side of the road and activate the lights in their cruisers for 60 seconds. Unfortunately, the Autism Awareness Resource Fair was cancelled due to the pandemic. Please stay tuned for additional information.

The Lowell Police Department implemented the Safe Watch Program in 2019. The LPD Safe Watch Program allows residents to enter information about their loved ones with a disability or another condition that can enhance the tendency to wander from safe environments. Information, such as physical characteristics or favorite locations, can then be used to immediately begin a search in the event that an individual goes missing. Those interested in the LPD Safe Watch Program can register their family members on the LPD website (<http://www.lowellma.gov/1264/Safe-Watch-Program>).



LPD 8 AM Routine

The LPD started an 8 AM routine to remind residents to practice social distancing and to avoid large crowds. The department also made suggestions for activities that residents could do in their free time, such as video chatting with friends and family. These types of activities can allow residents to remain in contact with friends and loved ones and can reduce feelings of isolation during the pandemic. Residents were encouraged to participate in a “Chalk Your Walk” challenge and submit pictures of their pets, which were shared on social media. To view pictures of the “Chalk Your Walk” challenge or to see if a picture of your pet was posted, please visit the LPD on Facebook (@LowellMAPD). The LPD continues to post its 9 PM routine on Twitter and Facebook. The 9 PM Routine is a daily reminder to residents to remove or hide all valuables in their cars and to lock their doors at night.



Superintendent Richardson's statement to the community regarding the death of George Floyd:



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Raymond Kelly Richardson
Superintendent

Barry Golner
Deputy Superintendent

Daniel R. Larocque
Deputy Superintendent

May 30, 2020

Dear Community Members:

Most have seen the disturbing video of the tragic death of George Floyd in Minneapolis. The Lowell Police Department (LPD) stands with the public in denouncing the actions and inaction of the officers involved. This incident undermines and threatens to tarnish the hard work of officers who work daily to build the trust of the public and partner with the community to ensure public safety.

The mission of the Lowell Police Department is to continue building and maintaining strong partnerships with the diverse communities of the city of Lowell. We strive to work with our community to reduce the incidence and fear of crime, and to ensure public safety. We will do this while working to improve the quality of life for the citizens of Lowell.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Raymond Kelly Richardson".

Raymond Kelly Richardson
Superintendent of Police

Lowell Police Officer Training Standards and Department Practices

- Police officers at the LPD attend the Lowell Police Academy prior to becoming a sworn officer. After attending the academy, officers familiarize themselves with the LPD policies, procedures, rules and regulations. Officers also receive on-the-job training and are assigned to a Field Training Officer. After completing their initial training, officers must attend in-service trainings on a regular basis. These trainings are to ensure that LPD officers are familiar with current policies and procedures.
- Use of Force Policy: Police officers are authorized to use lethal force in order to protect him or herself, another officer, or another person when the officer has a reasonable belief that an imminent threat of death or serious bodily injury exists. Officers must take into consideration the severity of the crime, whether a suspect poses an imminent threat to the officer or others, and whether the suspect is actively resisting arrest or attempting to evade arrest. In the event that a police officer must use force on an individual, the event must be reported.
- Duty to Intervene: LPD officers have a duty to intervene when force from another officer is being unreasonably applied or is no longer required. Any intervention is later documented. Police officers also have a duty to report offenses and violations of the rules and regulations by officers and other employees.



LPD's Relationship with the Community

The Lowell Police Department works diligently to maintain its strong relationship with the community. This can be seen through the community and neighborhood association meetings as well as the department's participation in community programs and events. Unfortunately, many of these events have been canceled or postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The neighborhood meetings and community events will continue as soon as it is safe to do so. The LPD also collaborates with many community organizations such as the Boys and Girls Club of Greater Lowell, YWCA of Lowell, Lowell Community Health Center, and YouthBuild to create and fund programs for youth in the city.

The LPD would like to thank the individuals and organizations that have generously donated masks, food, and hand sanitizer to our department. Your donations are greatly appreciated!



Friendly Reminders

The LPD would like to remind residents to:

- ◆ Practice social distancing
- ◆ Wear a mask when you are unable to distance yourself from others
- ◆ Wash your hands regularly
- ◆ Cover your mouth when you sneeze or cough
- ◆ Stay home when you are sick

